

# CIRCA THEATRE 2019



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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE BROCHURE IS  
CORRECT AT TIME OF PRINTING HOWEVER IS SUBJECT TO  
CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.

# THEATRE ARTISTS CHARITABLE TRUST

Circa Theatre has been operating since 1976 and has gained a reputation as one of New Zealand's liveliest and most innovative theatres.

In 1987, Circa Theatre established the **Theatre Artists Charitable Trust (TACT)** to provide financial support to the creative artists (actors, playwrights, directors, etc) and help them achieve a viable income and career as professional artists. The support the artists receive from TACT through founding sponsor **Chapman Tripp**, as well as **Deloitte Private**, **Creative New Zealand**, and individual donors such as yourself, is vital to ensure we can continue to bring world-class theatre to Wellington.

We have introduced the **Arty 500 Annual Campaign** – a fundraising campaign that with your help we hope can achieve its goal to raise \$100,000.

## MAKE YOUR DONATION TODAY

Any donation, big or small, is greatly appreciated.

Simply visit **[circa.co.nz/arty500](http://circa.co.nz/arty500)** to donate by credit or debit card.

Otherwise, make a payment through Internet Banking.

Account name: Theatre Artists Charitable Trust

Account number: 01-0505-0636362-00

Particulars: [Your name] Payee code: [Your phone number]

Reference: Arty 500

You can also send a cheque to:

TACT, c/o Circa Theatre, PO Box 968, Wellington 6140

*Theatre Artists Charitable Trust is a charitable trust registered under the Charitable Trusts Act 1957 (registration number CC28898).*

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

### PRINCIPAL SPONSORS



**Chapman Tripp** is proud to support New Zealand's vibrant and diverse arts community. Founding sponsor since 1987.



**Deloitte Private** is committed to working with home-grown Wellington businesses, and is proud to support excellence on our local stage.



ARTS COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND TOI AOTEAROA

**Creative New Zealand** is the national arts development agency developing, investing in and advocating for the arts.

# CIRCA THEATRE

Circa Theatre offers sincere thanks to the generous philanthropists and organisations who make it possible for us to continue to bring world class theatre to Wellington.

## CORE FUNDERS



**Absolutely Positively  
Wellington City Council**  
Me Heke Ki Pōneke

## MAJOR PARTNER



## MAJOR GRANTS



## AUDIO SPONSOR

E M P O W E R

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We gratefully acknowledge a full list of our wonderful supporters on our website.

## Become a Circa Theatre Supporter

All supporters play an important role at Circa Theatre and each gift makes a difference. For more information about becoming a Partner, donor or sponsoring a show at Circa Theatre, please contact our team on 04 801 7992 or [circaadmin@circa.co.nz](mailto:circaadmin@circa.co.nz) or visit [circa.co.nz/support](http://circa.co.nz/support)

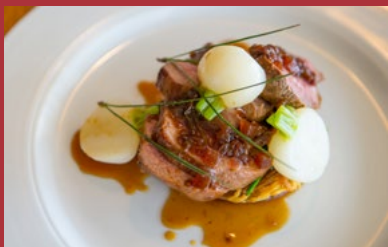


## CIRCA THEATRE CAFÉ & BAR

Enjoy a fresh and seasonal menu at one of Wellington's most iconic Waterfront locations. Join us for brunch this Spring from 9.30am on Saturdays and Sundays while enjoying our new outdoor seating area.

To reserve a table in our Café please phone 04 801 7996 or visit [www.circa.co.nz](http://www.circa.co.nz) for further information.

You can now book a pre-show meal together with your show ticket on our website [www.circa.co.nz](http://www.circa.co.nz).



### CORPORATE VENUE HIRE

For information about hiring Circa Theatre for your corporate events please contact Te Papa Venues at [venues@tepapa.govt.nz](mailto:venues@tepapa.govt.nz) or call 04 381 7272



## BOOKINGS

**Bookings can be made in person at the Box Office, by phone on 04 801 7992 or online anytime at [www.circa.co.nz](http://www.circa.co.nz)**

- There is no extra charge for credit card bookings (Mastercard or Visa) and online bookings
- The Box Office gets very busy an hour prior to the shows, so we recommend calling for advance bookings before 5.30pm
- Please note performance times can sometimes vary, please check with Box Office or online to confirm
- Need parking? We recommend Te Papa carpark (parking fees apply)

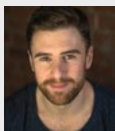
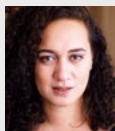
## EARLY BIRD TICKETS

The Early Bird always gets the worm! Book in advance, secure your seats and enjoy our discounted Early Bird ticket deals where you can **save \$10** on Adult tickets (\$42) and Concession & Senior tickets (\$32).

Note: Only applies to selected shows. Keep up to date on our website [www.circa.co.nz](http://www.circa.co.nz)



Circa Theatre is located at 1 Taranaki Street on Wellington's waterfront next to Te Papa.



## Kia Ora and welcome to Circa's 2019 season

It's been over forty years since a fiery group of young theatre makers unleashed Circa's first annual season on the Wellington audience and now we're thrilled to present our 2019 season to you.

As always we're striving to bring you the best of New Zealand and the world, right here on Wellington's glorious waterfront. This year we welcome back old friends Kathy, Shane and Giles as they take on the sharpest contemporary writing from the UK, Germany and New Zealand.

We'll present a great classic of the 20th Century, a new production of *Waiting for Godot* directed by Ross, and what's sure to be a modern NZ classic – Sam Brooks' searing political drama, *Burn Her*.

This year Sue directs the NZ premiere of Lucy Kirkwood's towering masterpiece *The Children* coming hot on the heels of Lyndee-Jane's hilarious adaptation of *Rants in the Dark*.

We've got Sondheim, Long Cloud and the return of Rollicking Entertainment, our favourite Christchurch carnies. We're also presenting the Circa debut of *The Pink Hammer* by our dear friend Michele, who was one of Circa's most popular performers.

Also, in the middle of the year we've got a great surprise. It's so top secret we can't tell you yet, but it's a partnership with another Wellington institution and some of the country's greatest theatrical talent – it will be Circa like you've never seen it before.

To those of you who have been with us over the last forty-two years, thank you, we've loved having you along for the ride.

To those of you joining us for the first time, nau mai, haere mai, welcome to Circa Theatre.

Lean in, we're going to blow your minds.

– The Circa Council





# Puss in Boots The Pantomime

By Paul Jenden

*Purrrfect panto fun for everyone!*

**DIRECTOR**

Susan Wilson

**MUSIC ARRANGED  
AND DIRECTED BY**

Michael Nicholas  
Williams

**Circa One**

**2 – 12 Jan**

**Tues – Sat 6.30pm**

**Sun 4pm**

**\$18 – \$52**

Presented by  
arrangement with



Proudly  
sponsored by



If your boots are made for walkin' then step right into the New Year with *Puss in Boots – the Pantomime*. Mrs Miller, a poor widow woman, and her son Arthur live in Aro Valley and dream of winning the Big Wednesday Lotto and moving to posh Karori. Arthur finds he has been left a cat in his father's will. It's clever, talking Puss in Boots!!! Follow their exciting adventures as they set out to find riches and come across a down-on-his-luck King, his feisty daughter and two marauding trolls! Will they find fortune? Will they outwit the wicked trolls who want to destroy wonderful Wellington? Will they live happily ever after? Wonderfully entertaining, jammed packed with toe-tapping songs and look out for our magnificent Panto Dame – Gavin Rutherford!

***'I just love a good Pantomime, I come every year.'***

***'We go to the Panto every year and always know that we are going to have a good time and smile and smile.'***

***'I like that adults and kids both loved it. We might have all laughed at different things, but we were all laughing!'***



# Movers

By James Cain

*Shortlisted for the Adam NZ Play Award*

## DIRECTOR

Matthew Loveranes

## COMPANY

Red Scare Theatre  
Company

12 – 26 Jan

Circa Two

Tues – Sat 7.30pm

\$25 – \$35



Touring the country after a sold-out season at BATS Theatre and shortlisted for Playmarket's Adam NZ Play Award.

Aspiring comedian Tai starts work at a moving company and meets Oscar and Bruce, two Pākehā blokes who seem to have stepped straight out of the Stuff.co.nz comments. When Tai's off-the-cuff impersonation of Bruce impresses audiences, he's got to make a choice between his job and his career.

Starring: Sepe Mua'au, John Landreth and Lloyd Scott.

***'A highly intelligent and insightful script... exposing the dynamics of masculine relationships.'* – David O'Donnell**



# I Am Not Margaret Mahy

Based on Mahy's essay *Notes of a Bag Lady*, adapted by Jane Waddell

*The eccentric life behind one of New Zealand's wildest imaginations.*

**DIRECTOR**

Stella Reid

**PRODUCER**

A Mulled Whine

**9 Feb – 2 March**

**Preview 8 Feb**

**Circa Two**

**Tues – Sat 7.30pm**

**Sun 4.30pm**

**\$25 – \$35**

Witch, jungle child, bewildered student, detective, librarian, shark: Margaret Mahy defied definition at every turn, embodying aspects of her characters in the many lives she lived. This delightful adaptation reveals the unconventional woman behind the stories that ignited our imaginations: Her witchy ways, bag lady tendencies, and never-ending search for adventure.

It's a reminder to us all that you can grow old, but you don't have to grow up.

***'Waddell is at her best when personifying Margaret as a cheeky, rebellious child... she narrates with mischievous energy.'***

**– Theatreview**





Emily Writes'

# Rants in the Dark

Adapted for the stage by Mel Dodge,  
Lyndee-Jane Rutherford & Bevin Linkhorn

*From one tired mama to another*

## DIRECTOR

Lyndee-Jane Rutherford

## COMPANY

Good Times Company

**19 Jan - 16 Feb**

**Preview 18 Jan**

**Circa One**

**Tues & Wed 6.30pm**

**Thurs, Fri, Sat 8pm**

**\$25 - \$52**

**Babes in Arms**

**performances**

**Wed 23 & 30 Jan,**

**10.30am**

**\$25 - \$39**

**GOOD  
TIMES**  
COMPANY

Wellington blogger Emily Writes' best-selling book *Rants in the Dark* is making the leap from the page to the stage. Emily's heartfelt and hilarious writing explores her parenting experience, offering comfort and connection to other exhausted parents all over the world. Honest, authentic and laugh out loud funny, the play is full of the things that every parent thinks at 4am, but would rarely be brave enough to say out loud.

Emily shot to fame after a rant on her blog received 1 million hits overnight. Celebrate the truth and hilarity of parenthood (and grandparenthood!) and track the impact of what happened when Emily's blog went viral overnight.

Following a five night sell-out preview in the 2018 Women's Theatre Festival, Circa is proud to be hosting the premiere season of this phenomenal new production.

Starring: Renee Lyons, Bronwyn Turei, Emma Draper

***'It was affirming and beautiful and I loved it so, so much.'***

***'It was so deeply moving. It was hugely hilarious. Real stories for real people. My heart was bursting.'***

***'You are telling it like it is, the realities of parenthood, pregnancy and birth... and god knows the world needs more realism around parenting.'***



# Side by Side by Sondheim

Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim and  
music by Leonard Bernstein, Mary Rodgers,  
Richard Rodgers, Jule Styne

*A dazzling array of songs celebrating the wit and  
genius of musical theatre's most influential artist*

**DIRECTOR**

Emma Kinane

**MUSICAL DIRECTOR**

Michael Nicholas Williams

**23 Feb – 22 March**

**Preview 22 Feb**

**Circa One**

**Tues – Thurs 6.30pm**

**Fri – Sat 8pm, Sun 4pm**

**\$25 – \$52**

**Early Bird Tickets**

**Available**

Proudly supported by

Adam Foundation



Celebrating the 40th anniversary of Circa Theatre's original production, *Side by Side by Sondheim* is full of sparkling lyrics and exciting music, featuring two grand pianos and gorgeous gowns.

Performed by three of New Zealand's leading international musical theatre performers Julie O'Brien, Matthew Pike and Sarah Lineham, and accompanied by maestros Michael Nicholas Williams and Colin Taylor, *Side by Side by Sondheim* celebrates the composer of Broadway successes *West Side Story*, *Gypsy*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Into the Woods*, *Company*, *Follies* and *A Little Night Music*.

Sometimes hilarious, sometimes heartbreaking, *Side by Side by Sondheim* is a spectacle of elegance, glamour, sophistication and humour with heart.

***'This is a dream of a show [...] happy, funny, witty and so compassionate. It makes you feel good!'*** ★★★★★  
— The New York Times

***'A ravishing musical retrospective!'***  
★★★★★ — New York Daily News





# Nobody Hears the Axe Fall

ChoreoCo by Footnote New Zealand Dance

*A striking collision of movement and sound*

## CHOREOGRAPHERS

Julia Harvie &  
Stuart Lloyd-Harris

## COMPANY

ChoreoCo

**5 – 10 March**  
**Circa Two**

**Tues – Sat 7.30pm**  
**Sun 4.30pm**  
**\$16 – \$22**

**FOOTNOTE**  
*New Zealand Dance*

**creative***nz*  
ARTS COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND TOI AOTEAROA

**Absolutely Positively**  
**Wellington City Council**  
Me Heke Ki Pōneke

**FRINGE**  
FESTIVAL

Created especially for Fringe, ChoreoCo by Footnote is a short-term company of remarkable dance artists. In 2019, the energy of a brand-new ChoreoCo combines with long-time collaborators Julia Harvie and Stuart Lloyd-Harris to create *Nobody Hears the Axe Fall*.

An unruly collection of imagery escapes from *Nobody Hears the Axe Fall*. Through pattern and rhythm, this fresh new work chews on the complexities of life and spits out a live soundscape for all the senses. Performed by this year's outstanding ChoreoCo dancers, *Nobody Hears the Axe Fall* is an immersive cinematic experience.

***'The cast show no mercy. They are all equally mesmerising in their performance.'* — Donna Banicevich-Gera on ChoreoCo 2018**





# Watching Paint Dry

By Anders Falstie-Jensen

*A different colour every night!*

## COMPANY

The Rebel Alliance

**18 - 22 March**

**Circa Two**

**Mon - Fri 7.30pm**

**\$15 - \$30**

 creative *nz*  
ARTS COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND / TOI AOTIAROA

  
the paint the professionals use

 FRINGE  
FESTIVAL

Join solo performer Sean Lynch as he guides you through the art of watching paint dry (live!) while your phone is turned on and set to loud.

A minimalist exploration of modern life and Scandinavian Zen, *Watching Paint Dry* will take you on an extraordinary journey through the freshly coated corridors of your mind.

From the company behind *Manifesto 2083* comes a transcendental theatre experience for people who want to expand their minds while staying connected.

***'Much more fun than it sounds'***  
**— Theatrescenes**

## TRIGGER WARNING!

Please note that *Watching Paint Dry* is emotionally manipulative and can induce anxiety for sufferers of OCD, perfectionists and fish lovers.

# 2019 CAPITALE national arts FESTIVAL



## Capital E

### 2019 Capital E's National Arts Festival for Children

*NZ's biggest Arts Festival for children*

#### COMPANY

New Zealand Opera

9 - 22 March

Circa One

**The Barber of Seville**

Sat 16 March

11am and 1pm

From \$16.50

Bookings at

[www.capitale.org.nz](http://www.capitale.org.nz) or

04 913 3740



Created just for children and young people, the National Arts Festival will see national and international artists take over the city! Tamariki will be transported to wonderful new worlds and surprising settings with acrobatics, 3D shadow puppets, music, street performance, comedy, and dance.

Come along to Capital E's National Arts Festival and introduce your children to the wonderful world of opera! Comedy mixes with music in this fast-paced, colourful, and entertaining adaptation of Rossini's *The Barber of Seville*.

Suits ages 7+

# NZOPERA



experience

**Wellington**

wellington museums trust



ARTS COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND TOI AOTEAROA

**Absolutely Positively  
Wellington City Council**

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## PLAY READINGS



### Micronation Street

By Emma Kinane

Directed by Susan Wilson

**Saturday 6 April 2pm | \$15 - \$19**

Emma graduated from Toi Whakaari/NZ Drama School in 1988 and has worked as an actor and writer in theatre, TV, film and radio. She co-wrote the plays *Turbine*, *Paua* and *The December Brother* with the SEED Collective. *Turbine* was nominated for the Chapman Tripp Best New New Zealand Play in 2007 and her pilot episode script *Hope* won the NZWG Television Script Competition. Emma has been in numerous shows at Circa including *Troy the Musical*, *Dick Whittington and his Cat*, and *Monarchy: The Musical*. Her play *Anahera* was shortlisted for the Adam Play Award 2016, won Outstanding New NZ Play at the Wellington Theatre Awards 2017 and premiered at Circa Theatre in September 2017.

When a proposed flyover threatens their home with demolition, Will and Frances rally their neighbours together to declare their street an independent micronation. A cast of 5 play 29 characters, in a drama with humour that dips its toes into farce.



### The Pope

By Anthony McCarten

Directed by Ross Jolly

**Saturday 21 September 2pm | \$15- \$19**

Anthony is a celebrated film-maker, novelist and playwright, who divides his time between New Zealand and London. Anthony received early international success with his play *Ladies Night*. Anthony is also a film director and producer whose screenplay for *The Theory of Everything* was nominated for an Academy Award. His film *Darkest Hour* has been nominated for the 2018 BAFTA Award for Best British Film. Circa has staged a number of Anthony McCarten's plays include *WEED*, *Yellow Canary Mazurka*, *Via Satellite* as well as a previous Play Reading of *Funny Girl*.

Pope Benedict and Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio meet at the Castel Goundolfo, the Pope's Summer Residence in August 2012. We witness their imagined discussion.

Presented by arrangement with





# The Children

By Lucy Kirkwood

*“At our time of life we simply  
cannot deal with this shit”*

## DIRECTOR

Susan Wilson

**30 March – 27 April**

**Preview 29 March**

**Circa One**

**Tues – Thurs 6.30pm**

**Fri – Sat 8pm**

**Sun 4pm**

**\$25 – \$52**

**Early Bird Tickets**

**Available**

*The Children* has been an enormous hit on London, New York, Melbourne and Sydney stages. Playwright Lucy Kirkwood, one of the world's most exciting young playwrights, offers this beautifully written play which tackles timely themes.

Three of New Zealand's most esteemed actors, Catherine Downes, Carmel McGlone and Peter Hambleton star in this gripping new drama that beautifully balances the realities of our times with intrigue and humour.

Hazel and Robin are trying to go about their life of yoga and farming as though nothing has changed. But everything shifts when an old friend, Rose, knocks on their door. Something doesn't feel right... the fallout will be unpredictable.

*The Children* introduces us to this trio of characters in a witty and touching story that rumbles with big questions about how we live. What responsibility do we have for this planet? What do we want to leave behind for our children?

**Tony Award Nomination 2018**

**Best New Play**

***‘Buoyed by wit, humour and beautifully  
observed characterisations’ ★★★★★***

**— The Music**

***‘Engrossing, disturbing, funny and  
nightmarish. Recommended!’ ★★★★★***

**— Stage Noise**



# Paper Shaper

Brought to you by Little Dog Barking

*A charming story about a mischievous little man who lives in a rubbish bin*

## DIRECTOR

Peter Wilson

**16 – 27 April**

**April School Holidays**

**Circa Two**

**Tues – Sat 10am,**

**11.30am and 6.30pm**

**Sun 4.30pm**

**\$15**

**\$50 Family Pass**

**x2 Adults & x2 Children**



Short and simple, yet rich with emotion and humour, *Paper Shaper* is the antithesis of big-brand kids' entertainment such as Hi-5 or the Wiggles. With utmost care and skill the company weaves together a magical world that will introduce children to the true beauty that theatre is capable of expressing.

The story springs straight from the realms of imagination and curiosity that children inhabit. What happens to that little man on the side of the rubbish bin when no-one is looking? He creates a whole universe out of people's paper, with a paper sun, paper trees, paper flowers and paper butterflies. When a long-faced but cheerful man visits the paper shaper's park for a picnic, the two start out as opponents, but soon become playmates and finally, friends.

This tale, devised by director Peter Wilson, with music by Gareth Farr, needs no dialogue to communicate to its junior audience. The combination of mask work and puppetry opens up some wonderful possibilities for visual storytelling.

Suitable for years 2 – 100

***'This is the kind of enchanting, poetic and moving theatre that is ideal for nourishing little minds.'* — Thomas Hood, Dominion Post**



# TheatreSports 2019

Brought to you by The Improvisors

**5 - 26 May**  
**Circa One**

**Sun 7pm**  
**\$18 - \$25**  
**\$60 Family Pass**  
**x2 Adults & x2 Students**

**THE**  
**Improvisors**



It wouldn't be Sunday night without the family favourite improvised comedy - TheatreSports.

Each week Wellington's professional improvisors go head to head, creating comedy scenes to win the Team title of Wellington's funniest. The Millennials think it's theirs by right and the Traditionals know that such baubles must be earned.

This is designer comedy, pulled out of thin air, using only suggestions provided from the audience and the skills and comic invention of the performers.

TheatreSports delivers a once-in-a-lifetime experience every show. Not to be missed because not even the improvisors know what is going to happen.







# Waiting for Godot

By Samuel Beckett

*Genius... A True Masterpiece of the Century*

## DIRECTOR

Ross Jolly

**4 May - 1 June**

**Preview 3 May**

**Circa One**

**Tues - Thurs 6.30pm**

**Fri - Sat 8pm**

**Sun 4pm**

**\$25 - \$52**

**Early Bird Tickets**

**Available**

Two homeless men wait on a bare road with a single tree. They are in no particular time or place – nowhere and everywhere. Over two days they argue, get bored, clown around, repeat themselves, and wait. They're waiting for the one who will never come. They're waiting for Godot.

Who, or what, is Godot? Whatever you want, a metaphor for every kind of thing you can think of. Essentially *Waiting for Godot* is about lying in the gutter but looking at the stars.

And then of course, there's the writing and the humour. It leaps off the stage and is hugely emotional and compassionate and funny. Beckett himself said that the laughter and the tears were all that mattered.

One of the greatest 20th-Century plays, *Waiting for Godot* remains, after innumerable productions worldwide over the past 60 years, "a witty and poetic conundrum" (*The Guardian*), "humorous and deeply human" (*The Press*), "entertainment of a high order" (*NY Times*).

Featuring: Andrew Foster,  
Gavin Rutherford, Simon Leary  
and Jeff Kingsford-Brown.

Design: Andrew Foster

Lighting: Marcus McShane

Costumes: Sheila Horton

**'Something that will securely lodge in a corner of your mind for as long as you live.'**  
— The Sunday Times



# Conversations with Dead Relatives

Written and performed by  
Phil Ormsby and Alex Ellis

*Stories that have always been told. And retold.  
Over breakfast tables, barbeques, campfires, and  
drunken dinner parties.*

## DIRECTOR

Jennifer Ward-Lealand

## COMPANY

Flaxworks Theatre  
Company

1 - 11 May

Circa Two

Tues - Sat 7.30pm

Sat 4.30pm

\$25 - \$35



Stories, we all have them. You know the ones. Epic and incredible family stories passed down through generations about warriors, princesses, ratbags, preachers and visionaries. Stories that tell us where we came from and who we are. Maybe. And like all good stories there are clashes of ideals, epic adventures and romantic tales of love and hope. These are the stories of our ancestors.

The makers of *Drowning in Veronica Lake* and *Miss Jean Batten* bring you a thought-provoking, possibly exaggerated, sometimes ridiculous but definitely more personal play, straight from our ancestors' mouths.

These are our stories. What are yours?

**'A tribute to the ancient art of  
storytelling.'** — Trish Sullivan,  
Theatreview



# Another Twin

By Lally Katz

*Real Estate is not so Real anymore!*

**DIRECTOR**

Brett Adam

**COMPANY**

Long Cloud Theatre  
Company

**18 May – 1 June**

**Preview 17 May**

**Circa Two**

**Tues – Sat 7.30pm**

**Sun 4.30pm**

**\$25 – \$35**

Long Cloud Youth Theatre is proud to present the New Zealand premier of Lally's Katz's *Another Twin*. Cockroaches, blood sacrifice, indie film making, God's work, and the shadiest Real Estate deals you've ever seen. Katz turns her brilliant creative eye to the insidious infiltration of our world by the 'net. The world is being taken over, literally, by the virtual. But not everyone is going without fight, or the right price.

***'Technological progress is like an axe in the hands of a pathological criminal.'***

**— Albert Einstein**



[www.secondunitproductions.co.nz](http://www.secondunitproductions.co.nz)



# Bathtime Bubbles

## A Messy Magic Adventure

Written and performed by  
David Ladderman and Lizzie Tollemache

**DIRECTOR**

Greg Cooper

**SOUND AND**

**LIGHTING DESIGN**

Amber Molloy

**COMPANY**

Rollicking  
Entertainment

**9 – 20 July**

**Circa One**

**Tues – Sat 11am**

**\$10 – \$15**

**Rollicking**  
Entertainment

Circus, slapstick and magic come together once more as Spray and Wipe (the world's messiest cleaners!) move to the Circa mainstage.

With slippery soap that won't stay still, splashing water and GIANT BUBBLES, Spray and Wipe are faced with their greatest adventure yet: bathtime!

Can Wipe's magic save him from the horror of a hairwash? Can you go scuba diving in a bath? And can the audience help Spray dry everything off by the end of the show?!? Waterproof cover provided for those in the front row...

For ages 3+, *Bathtime Bubbles* is suitable for our friends from last year AND for newcomers to the Messy Magic world. Our adventures last year and the year before both completely sold out so get in quick for this one!

Stick around after the show for messy hi-5's and photos with Spray and Wipe.

**Praise for last year's messy magic adventure, *Kitchen Chaos*: 'Riveting, delightful, exciting and highly amusing.'**

**— John Smythe, Theatreview**



# The Dunstan Creek Haunting

Written and performed by  
David Ladderman and Lizzie Tollemache

*Do you believe in ghosts?*

## DIRECTOR

Daniel Pengelly with  
further workshoping  
by Mike Friend

## COMPANY

Rollicking  
Entertainment

First produced in  
association with  
The Court Theatre,  
Christchurch

**9 - 20 July**

**Circa One**

**Tues - Thurs 6.30pm**

**Fri - Sat 8pm**

**Sun 4pm**

**\$25 - \$52**

David Ladderman and Lizzie Tollemache present eerie ghost stories from the gold rush. But lately their shows have been disrupted by strange occurrences. Audience members are experiencing phenomena that can't be explained... What if we are not alone in the theatre tonight?

With real life accounts of early New Zealand hauntings, this spine-chilling show will make you question every shadow and sleep with the lights on. Perfect for fans of mysteries, thrillers and films like *The Conjuring*, *The Others* and *The Woman in Black*.

A show to make you gasp, laugh... and then scream.

***'Between delicious, tingly, creeping dread, glorious full-on scares and, at one point, actual fear on my part, Dunstan Creek is in turns bombastic and gentle, a lesson in controlled chaos, with a captivating energy that is sustained completely throughout the hour.' – Southland Arts Festival, Theatreview 2017***

WARNING: This show may contain paranormal activity and is not suitable for those with an extremely nervous disposition. Latecomers not admitted.





# Heroic Faun No. One

By Gregory Cooper

*One man. One faun. 1.5 seconds of fame.*

**DIRECTOR**

Mark Hadlow

**PRODUCER**

A Mulled Whine

**17 – 27 July**

**Preview 16 July**

**Circa Two**

**Tues – Sat 7.30pm**

**Sun 4.30pm**

**\$25 – \$35**



Gregory Cooper was Heroic Faun No. One. The most important featured extra background faun with no dialogue in blockbuster film *The Lion The Witch and the Wardrobe*.

Unfortunately nobody noticed him... until now.

Armed with nothing more than a wig, a rubber sword and some disturbingly revealing green tights, Gregory is coming out of the wardrobe to show us all what goes on beyond the camera and the CGI.

One actor's descent into a catering-fuelled nightmare of prosthetic paranoia becomes a tragic, comedic and heroic piece of hardcore faunography.

***'A piece of scintillating dinner party conversation that brings us tantalisingly close to the glitz and glamour of a genuine Hollywood blockbuster.'***

**— New Zealand Herald**

***'Delivers plenty of laughs as well as having a story to tell about what it means to be an artist.'***

**— Australian Stage**





# ORCHIDS

## Foster Group Dance

*A mesmerising performance sees three generations of women unravel their mythology*

### CHOREOGRAPHIC DIRECTION

Sarah Foster-Sproull

### COMPANY

Foster Group Dance

### ASSISTANT DIRECTION & PRODUCER

Natalie Maria Clark

**24 - 27 July**  
**Circa One**

**Tues - Thurs 6.30pm**  
**Fri - Sat 8pm**  
**\$25 - \$46**

**Early Bird Tickets**  
**Available**



*ORCHIDS* divulges the secrets of feminine magic and lost ritualistic practices, in a spellbinding performance from seven women aged 8yrs to 60yrs - including former LIMBS dancer, Marianne Schultz.

The world of *ORCHIDS* evokes mothers, sisters, witches, sirens, goddesses and other-worldly creatures. Choreographer Sarah Foster-Sproull's work (Guangdong Modern Dance China, Footnote NZ, Royal NZ Ballet) has been likened to a living Hieronymus Bosch or Caravaggio painting. Through *ORCHIDS*, she connects some of NZ's most reputed artists, including composer Eden Mulholland and designers Andrew Foster (set and dramaturgy), Jennifer Lal (lighting) and Elizabeth Whiting (costumes). Together, they unravel an entrancing mythological realm that demystifies the complex female spirit, bringing women out of darkness and into the light.

**'... full of eros, pathos and humour ...'**  
— The Pantograph Punch

**'... intensely intimate ...'** — NZ Herald

**'... moves many of the audience to tears ...'**  
— Theatreview



# Burn Her

By Sam Brooks

*A searing political thriller*

## DIRECTOR

Katherine McRae

## PRODUCER

A Mulled Whine

**3 – 31 August**

**Preview 2 Aug**

**Circa One**

**Tues – Thurs 6.30pm**

**Fri – Sat 8pm**

**Sun 4pm**

**\$25 – \$52**

**Early Bird Tickets  
Available**

Presented by  
arrangement with



It's election night and a fledgling new party led by the charismatic and idealistic Aria Robson clinches one seat in Parliament. That same night, an intern comes to her with a scandal that could sink the party by morning. Aria must decide what or who she is willing to sacrifice for her ambitions.

A timely work by the talented young playwright Sam Brooks (*The Spinoff*) that highlights the tensions between integrity, the power of spin and the hazards of being a woman in the unforgiving world of politics.

*Burn Her* was short-listed for the Adam NZ Play Award 2017 and had a sell-out production at Q Theatre in 2018.

Starring: Kali Kopae, Sophie Hambleton, Jean Sargent

***'Brooks has done a humdinger of a job ... a wryly observed dissection of where humanity comes into politics – and life in general – with women at the centre.'***  
— Dionne Christian, NZ Herald review

***'His words are intelligent, confronting, genuinely funny, and crackle with a musicality that echoes his own sardonic yet considered wit.'*** — Matt Baker, Theatre Scenes



# CRINGE WORTHY



# Cringeworthy!

Devised by Andrea Sanders

*A smorgasboard of contagiously cringeworthy songs, served with a huge dollop of cheesy comedy*

## **DIRECTOR**

Andrea Sanders

## **COMPANY**

Total Entertainment

**10 Aug – 7 Sept**

**Preview 9 Aug**

**Circa Two**

**Tues – Sat 7pm**

**Sun 4.30pm**

**\$25 – \$52**

**Early Bird Tickets**

**Available**

NZ in the 1970s and the cultural cringe was in full swing. Musical options were limited, popular music was served to us via a handful of radio stations and two TV channels. At a time before the internet, Spotify, iTunes and musical gratification at the touch of the screen, we were held hostage to the Top 40, often delivered to us via shows such as *Happen Inn*, *Free Ride* and *Ready to Roll*.

Mark Williams, Bunny Walters, Suzanne, Craig Scott, The Fourmyula, Creation, John Rowles, Blerta and more sashayed into our living rooms performing original songs and covers of overseas hits unavailable via music videos as they are today.

Many of these songs had a story to tell, packed with drama and often tragedy... ‘Take The Money and Run’, ‘Seasons In the Sun’, ‘Jezebel’, ‘I Did What I Did for Maria’ and ‘Tell Laura I Love Her’ ... you couldn’t escape and somehow ended up knowing all of the lyrics inside out.

Kids today can tune in and out as they please. We, on the other hand, ended up being forced to listen to songs we didn’t necessarily even like ... until now!

Starring: Andrea Sanders and Carrie McLaughlin (The BeatGirls), Jeff Kingsford-Brown, Randy Rogers



# The Pink Hammer

By Michele Amas

*Women in the Man-Cave!*

## DIRECTOR

Conrad Newport

## COMPANY

Hammer Collective

**7 Sept - 5 Oct**

**Preview 6 Sept**

**Circa One**

**Tues - Thurs 6.30pm**

**Fri - Sat 8pm**

**Sun 4pm**

**\$25 - \$52**

**Early Bird Tickets**

**Available**

Presented by  
arrangement with



“Join Maggie Taylor as she guides you through basic carpentry skills and chisels away at the stereotype that has kept women out of the tool box for so long.”

So reads the flyer for The Pink Hammer Workshop, but when four strangers turn up for their first lesson they soon discover their tutor has disappeared – along with their pre-paid fees.

No one is pleased, least of all Maggie’s husband, who knows nothing about the course and even less about GirlPower. For him, empowerment is something you plug into a wall socket.

Five unhappy people in a shed full of tools. What could possibly go wrong?

***‘A damn good play. Very funny.’***

**— Roger Hall**

***‘If you’re looking for a great night out, The Pink Hammer hits the nail on the head.’ — Theatreview***







# Peggy Pickit Sees the Face of God

By Roland Schimmelpfennig

*A bitterly funny post-colonial*

Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf

**DIRECTOR**

Giles Burton

**COMPANY**

three bridges

**14 Sept - 12 Oct**

**Preview 12 & 13 Sept**

**Circa Two**

**Tues - Sat 7.30pm**

**Sun 4.30pm**

**\$25 - \$52**

**Early Bird Tickets**

**Available**

A play that turns the cliché of the drunken dinner party between old friends inside out.

After six 'wonderful and horrific' years working as medics in the developing world, Carol and Martin visit their medical school friends Frank and Liz, who have remained at home building their careers and a comfortable life.

With whip-smart dialogue, bittersweet humour, impossible choices and two dolls, *Peggy Pickit Sees the Face of God* explores the gap between the couples and between the west and the developing world in a satire on aid and post colonialism, asking who has lead the better life.

**'Run - don't walk, skip or even scurry - to catch Peggy Pickit Sees the Face of God at Canadian Stage.' — Globe and Mail, Toronto**



# He Kura Kōrero

## The Gift of Speech

By Rutene Spooner and Holly Chappell-Eason

*“Ko te reo kia tika, ko te reo kia rere, ko te reo kia Māori!”*

**DIRECTOR**

Carrie Green

**1 – 12 October**

**Circa Two**

**Tues – Sat**

**10am & 11.30am**

**\$10 – \$15**

Presented by  
arrangement with



*He Kura Kōrero* encourages young people to be bold and brave in using Te Reo Māori in everyday life, whether they know a little or a lot.

Join Kaiarahi as they find their voice and the courage to speak Te Reo Māori. Be a part of their exciting journey and delve into magical worlds through language. *He Kura Kōrero* explores Te Reo Māori through live music, comedy, Kapa haka, song, and story telling.

Originally commissioned by  
Court Theatre, Christchurch

# Become a *Friend of Circa*

Circa Theatre is supported by patrons like you. When you contribute to Circa Theatre, you join a group of individuals and businesses that, along with sharing a passion for the arts, ensures Circa Theatre can continue to bring a diverse range of world class productions to Wellington. Your support helps make it possible!

## Annual Membership – \$60

Express your love of the theatre by taking out an annual membership to our *Friend of Circa* programme. An affordable way to be involved in supporting Circa Theatre, you will receive:

- Two tickets at our special Friends price (\$38 per ticket), for the first two weeks of each production
- Regular newsletters keeping you up-to-date with exclusive content about upcoming productions
- Automatic entry into our *Friends of Circa* monthly giveaway of TWO Circa Theatre tickets
- Invitations to special events at Circa Theatre.

## Philanthropic Support

All donors play an important role at Circa Theatre and each gift makes a difference. We offer sincere thanks to the generous people who donate.

## To become a *Friend of Circa* or to donate

- **Online**  
Visit [circa.co.nz](http://circa.co.nz)
- **Phone**  
Call our Box Office on 04 801 7992
- **In person**  
Visit Circa Theatre, 1 Taranaki Street, Wellington

*Circa is an incorporated society also registered under the Charities Act 2005 (registration number CC31347).*



# Cock

By Mike Bartlett

*Sometimes love is worth a good fight*

**DIRECTOR**

Shane Bosher

**COMPANY**

Brilliant Adventures

**12 Oct – 9 Nov**

**Preview 11 Oct**

**Circa One**

**Tues – Thurs 6.30pm**

**Fri – Sat 8pm**

**Sun 4pm**

**\$25 – \$52**

**Early Bird Tickets**

**Available**

John wants out and so he's taking a break from his needy boyfriend. Free from Mr. Co-Dependent, the last thing he's expecting is to suddenly meet the woman of his dreams. Now John's stuck in a total boy-meets-girl-meets-boyfriend shemuzzle. Caught in a maelstrom of possibility, guilt and indecision, John reckons there's only one way to straighten this all out.

Winner of the Laurence Olivier Award, this playful, candid encounter with identity and its discontents has already knocked out audiences in London, New York, Sydney and Auckland. Now it's Wellington's turn to get in the ring with this wildly funny, bold and contemporary take on this thing we call love.

Bring him and her.

From the Writer of *King Charles III* and *Doctor Foster*.

Starring: Jack Buchanan,  
Peter Hambleton, Simon Leary

**'... Absolutely thrilling ... The theatrical experience is extraordinary.'**

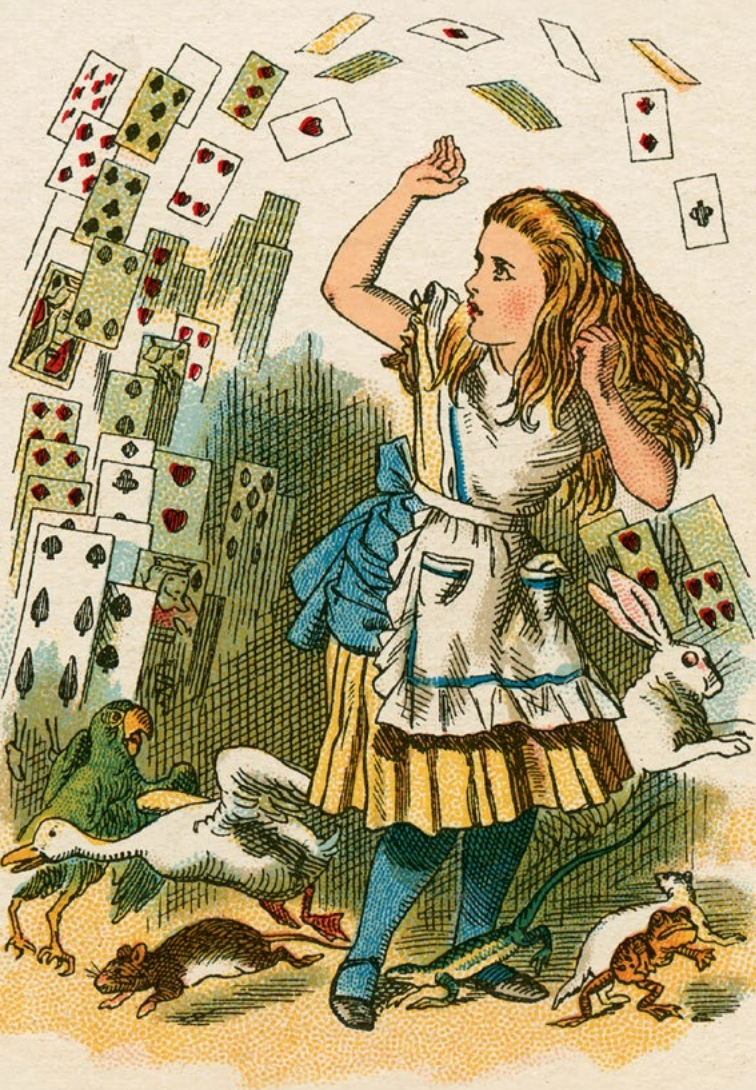
— Daily Review, Sydney

**"... A terrific comedy... Hypnotic and utterly contemporary.'**

— New York Times

**'... When it's funny, it's hilarious, and when it moves you, it's a theatrical gut-punch.'**

— The Herald Sun, Sydney



# Alice in Wonderland

## The Pantomime

By Gavin Rutherford and Simon Leary

*Curiouser and Curiouser!*

### DIRECTOR

Susan Wilson

### MUSIC ARRANGED

### AND DIRECTED BY

Michael Nicholas Williams

**16 Nov – 22 Dec**

**Preview 15 Nov**

**Extra Matinees**

**Sat 7, 14, & 21 Dec at 2pm**

**Circa One**

**Tues – Sat 6.30pm**

**Sun 4pm**

**\$18 – \$52**

**Early Bird Tickets**

**Available**

Presented by  
arrangement with



Proudly  
sponsored by



Join Alice and our irrepressible Dame in a madcap family adventure down the rabbit hole. Wellington is in peril as the Queen of Hearts threatens to unleash the Jabberwocky. And what about those magical tasty tarts?

Alice and the White Rabbit team up with the Mad Hatter and friends in a crazy dreamlike adventure of ups and downs and pantomime fun. Will Alice rescue her frantic furry friend? Will our Mad Hatter ever make it big with his busking in Cuba Mall? Will the Dame find fame, or is it off with her head?

Hurry! Hurry! Don't be late!! Make sure you are booked for this very funny date!!

***'Fun, witty, intelligent, something for all ages, we all came out trying to remember the best jokes – we were aged from 8 to 72!'***

***'I just love a good Pantomime, I come every year.'***







# Uma Lava

By Victor Rodger

*Hell's bells*

COMPANY  
FCC

23 Nov – 14 Dec  
Preview 22 Nov  
Circa Two

Tues – Sat 7.30pm  
Sun 4.30pm  
\$25 – \$52



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supported by



From the award-winning Kiwi/Samoan playwright of last year's smash hit *At the Wake*, comes the world premiere season of *Uma Lava*.

Three strangers – a lesbian academic, a closeted right-wing politician and a promiscuous reverend with a penchant for juicy spoken word poetry – walk into a room. It's hate at first sight. But this isn't just any room they've walked into as they're about to find out when they try to leave.... Starring Anapela Polata'ivao (*Wild Dogs Under My Skirt*), Robbie Magasiva (*Wentworth*) and Goretti Chadwick (*Still Life with Chickens*), three of the Pasefika theatre world's most celebrated actors, *Uma Lava* is a riotous, irreverent comedy of terrors where no sacred cow is left unslaughtered.

***“a lesbian academic, a closeted right-wing politician and a promiscuous reverend walk into a room...”***



## Accessible Seating

Our seating In Circa One is accessible to wheelchair users; the seats in the front row can be removed so a wheelchair can be placed there instead. This means wheelchair users can now sit next to their family and friends during the show.

Circa Two does not have this seating structure however, the front row of seats provides the most accessible seating as it is a flat surface from the foyer to these seats (with no inclines or stairs).

If you have any questions about seating, please contact the Box Office on **04 801 7992** or email **[circa@circa.co.nz](mailto:circa@circa.co.nz)**.

## Accessible bathroom

We have recently renovated our Foyer and have a brand-new bathroom block. There is one new, accessible unisex toilet in Circa. When you come through the Circa front doors the bathroom is located directly to the left, past the nook.

## Accessible Performances

Circa Theatre prides itself on being a theatre that strives to make excellent quality theatre that is available to all members of our community. We offer a range of different accessible performances to suit audience members with different needs and requirements.



## NZSL Performances and Audio Description



Sessions listed with these symbols will be translated into New Zealand Sign Language or audio description.

Audio description is auditory narration that is particularly useful for people who are blind or partially sighted, where visual elements (such as scenes, settings, actions and costumes) and non-verbal action are described during gaps in dialogue.

## Relaxed Performances



Relaxed performances are designed for people who benefit from a more relaxed environment, including people with an autism spectrum disorder and people with intellectual or learning disabilities. House lights are kept on, seating is general admission and sound effects are lessened for a quieter atmosphere. A social script describing the performance, cast and venue will be available before the performance. Usually our relaxed performances cater for children and young adults.

## A companion can come for free!

In a further effort to make our theatre more accessible we are pleased to introduce a *free* companion/support person ticket.

For more information please contact [access@circa.co.nz](mailto:access@circa.co.nz).



**CIRCA THEATRE**

04 801 7992

[www.circa.co.nz](http://www.circa.co.nz)

